

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 ISO-00 IO-04 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-01 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 NEA-06 /071 W

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3308

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 24593

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, FR, UN, SF

SUBJECT: FRENCH CONCERN FOR SOUTH AFRICAN ITEMS IN

UNGA AND UNSC

1. EMBOFF OCTOBER 17 HAD TOUR D'HORIZON REGARDING UNGA WITH QUAI UN DIRECTOR LEPRETTE, WHO SPOKE GLOWINGLY OF HIS BILATERAL TALKS WITH ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM. LEPRETTE SAID OTHER THAN ME/PLO- HIS MAJOR CONCERN DURING BALANCE OF UNGA WILL BE SOUTH AFRICA. REGARDING SOUTH AFRICA ITEM IN UNSC, HE WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE ANY ADVANCED INFORMATION DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE REGARDING ITS PRELIMINARY POSITIONS AND POSSIBLE VOTING PLANS. PREDICTABLY, LEPRETTE UNABLE PROVIDE MUCH ON FRENCH POSITION SINCE THIS WILL DEPEND ON TEXT OF RESOLUTION AND OTHER UNFORSEEABLE FACTORS. HE SAID THERE ARE TWO GOF SCHOOLS, THE LEGALISTS WOULD WANT TO VOTE AGAINST UNSC RESOLUTION NOT IN KEEPING WITH UN CHARTER, OTHERS WOULD PREFER ABSTAIN BECAUSE LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS NOT PARAMOUNT.

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH ANOTHER EMBOFF SAME DAY, QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR AFRICA COMBAL MADE A SIMILAR
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REQUEST THAT WE PROVIDE HIM WITH ALL AVAILABLE INFORMA-

TION ON PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS AND LIKELY US ATTITUDES AND VOTING POSITIONS ON SOUTH AFRICA ITEM IN UNSC. HE, TOO, MENTIONED TWO SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT WITHIN THE FRENCH BUREAUCRACY, BUT IMPLIED REGRETFULLY THAT THE LEGALISTS ARE FEW IN NUMBER AND THAT THE OTHERS, COUNTING ON A U.S. VETO, WILL CARRY THE DAY. HE ADDED THAT ANY SUCH FRENCH ABSTENTION WOULD NOT BE DECIDED UNTIL THE ELEVENTH HOUR AND THEN BY GISCARD HIMSELF. HE ALSO PREDICTED THAT THE UK WILL ABSTAIN, LEAVING THE U.S. ALONE TO VETO.

3. REGARDING SOUTH AFRICAN DISCUSSION IN UNGA ITSELF, LEPRETTE ASKED FOR INFORMATION ON U.S. ARMS DELIVERY POLICY TO SOUTH AFRICA AND WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE ANY INDICATION OF MODIFICATION PLANNED THEREFOR.
IRWIN

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